DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICAL & MODERN LANGUAGES

CORNELL COLLEGE

SPANISH 205 TERM 2, 2015

Lyttle House 200

Profesora: Maricelle Pinto-Tomás, Ph.D. Office Hours:

103 College Hall M-T-W-TH: 12:00-1:00 PM or by appointment

Phone:

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**:

Spanish 205 Topics & Encounters in Hispanic Culture is about Central America and the Insular and the Continental Hispanic Caribbean. We will get a review of basic grammar as well. The course is designed to continue developing your abilities in the Spanish language through Central American and Caribbean cultural components, such as short stories, poems, songs, movies, documentaries, important historical figures, oral presentations and class discussions. All classes will be conducted in Spanish.

Your goal is correct self-expression in Spanish as well as understanding of both written and spoken Spanish. You should prepare lessons ALOUD whenever possible. Studying with classmates is also recommended.

The course will be enriched with materials on Internet and exercises done at the Humanities Multimedia Classroom. Oral presentations and cultural communicative situations will also be an important part of our class environment. We do not need a book for this class. I will post all the material at MOODLE.

**Educational Outcomes:**

SPA 205 supports the Educational Priorities and Outcomes of Cornell College with emphasis on knowledge, inquiry, reasoning, communication, and intercultural literacy.

**HOURS:**

M-W-F: 9:30-12:00 T-Th: 9:30- 11:30 AND 1:00-3:00

**EVALUATION:**

Trabajos escritos 25

ICA (Investigo, Comparto, Aprendo) 20

Pruebas Cortas 20

Presentaciones Orales 10

Tareas (hoja de estudio y repaso de gramática) 10

Trabajo Final Escrito y Oral 10

Puntos de Participación 5

Grade Scale: A (100-93) A- (92-90) B+ (89-87) B (86-83) B- (82-80) C+ (79-77) C (76-73) C- (72-70) D+ (69-67) D (66-63) D- (62-60) F (59...)

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

The accelerated pace of an intensive course supposes no absences. Only faculty approved absences and official medical excuses are valid. In general, if you miss more than two full days you should discuss dropping the course with the professor. Your daily attendance (morning and afternoon sessions) and class participation are key elements in you final grade. After one unexcused absence, your grade will drop a full letter grade.

Grade will continue to drop for every additional unexcused absence.

**GENERAL PROCEDURES**

The assignments must be done BEFORE class. The class is devoted mainly to practicing and participating in communicative activities. Topics on compositions (trabajos escritos) will be based on themes discussed previously or movies watched in class. Compositions should be written on every other line to allow for corrections. A second draft should be stapled to the corrected first draft the day after the first draft is returned to you.

There will be NO make-up quizzes, exams or compositions.

You should plan to spend at least three or four hours daily studying, preparing forclass, and doing homework. If you spend less than this amount of time on this course, do not complain to the professor about low grades or difficult assignments. Before coming to class, review grammar and vocabulary, familiarizing yourself with the materials we will be covering that day.

In groups of two, all of you will be responsible for facilitating discussion of topics, vocabulary, grammar activities, and short presentations about the assigned readings.

The final oral presentation (exam) will be in Spanish of course, and you will be asked to talk about a topic pre-approved by your professor. Details will be provided later.

No cell phones allowed in class.

**ACCOMODATIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS:**

Cornell College is committed to providing equal educational opportunities to all students. If you have a documented learning disability and will need any accommodation in this course, you must request the accommodation(s) from [the instructor of the course] as early as possible, and no later than the third day of the term.

Additional information about the policies and procedures for accommodation of learning disabilities is available on the Cornell web site at:

http://www.cornellcollege.edu/catalogue/academic-info/students-disabilities%20.shtml

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

If academic dishonesty occurs (cheating or plagiarism), you will get a “0” in the assigned work. Further penalties and a final grade of “F” are probable. Please, read Cornell

College’s policies on Academic Dishonesty at http://www.cornellcollege.edu/catalogue/academic-info/academic-honesty.shtml

**HOW TO SUCCEDD IN CLASS**

1. Come to class every day.

2. Pay attention and ask questions.

3. Do your job. If you feel lost after spending hours in a subject, look for help. Form a study group. Visit your professor. Look for a tutor at the writing studio.

4. Diversify the way you study: write cards with vocabulary, use charts to visualize irregular verbs.

5. Keep track of your mistakes. Ask your professor to explain further why you keep making the same mistakes. I will be happy to meet with you and help you individually during my office hours.

6. Practice grammar and/or vocabulary creating your own quizzes. Share with other classmates.

7. Get involved in the Spanish ‘community’ at Cornell College. Attend, if possible, the activities of the Spanish Club, OLA. Listen to Spanish music. Watch movies or TV in Spanish. Try to talk and think in Spanish rather than translating every single word.

8. Be positive and enjoy the next 31/2 weeks! I hope we will have a great time